AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Page 1, after the title, delete the paragraph added with the Preliminary Amendment of June 27, 2003 and insert the following new paragraph therefor:

The present application is a divisional of application Serial No. 09/155,885, filed October 8, 1998 (which issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,709,812 on March 23, 2004), which is a 371 U.S. National Phase of International Application No. PCT/EP97/02002, filed April 21, 1997.

Please insert the following new paragraph on page 23, after line 21:

The following lists the correspondence between the sequences of Figure 1 and the sequences of the Sequence Listing: HBVXCPS, SEQ ID NO:279; HBVADW, SEQ ID NO:280; HVHEPB, SEQ ID NO:281; S50225, SEQ ID NO:282; HPBADWZCG, SEQ ID NO:283; HPBADW3, SEQ ID NO:284; HPBADWZ, SEQ ID NO:285; HPBADW1, SEQ ID NO:286; HPBADW2, SEQ ID NO:287; HPBCGADR, SEQ ID NO:288; HBVADRM, SEQ ID NO:289; HPBADRA, SEQ ID NO:290; HPBCG, SEQ ID NO:291; HEHBVAYR, SEQ ID NO:292; HBVADR, SEQ ID NO:293; HBVADR4, SEQ ID NO:294; HPBADR1C, SEQ ID NO:295; HPBADRC, SEQ ID NO:296; HBVPREX, SEQ ID NO:297; HPBETNC, SEQ ID NO:298; HHVBC, SEQ ID NO:299; HHVCCHA, SEQ ID NO:300; HBVAYWMCG, SEQ ID NO:301; HBVAYWC, SEQ ID NO:302; HBVAYWCI, SEQ ID NO:303; HBVAYWE, SEQ ID NO:304; HBVDNA, SEQ ID NO:305; HPBHBVAA, SEQ ID NO:306; XXHEPAV, SEQ ID NO:307; HBVORFS, SEQ ID

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NO:308; HHVBE4, SEQ ID NO:309; HHVBBAS, SEQ ID NO:310; HHBF, SEQ ID

NO:311; HHVBFFOU, SEQ ID NO:312; and HBVADW4A. SEQ ID NO:313;